IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A compound objective lens comprising a first lens element and a second lens element, the first element comprising a mirror surface for internally redirecting a radiation beam passing through the first element, wherein the objective lens has a numerical aperture greater than 0.65, and wherein the focal length F_1 of the first element is related to the focal length F of the objective lens by the relation:

$$\frac{F_1}{F} > 2.5 \quad .$$

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound objective lens ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mirror surface is a planar mirror surface.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound objective lens ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the focal length F of the objective lens is less than 1mm.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ compound objective lens ~~according to any of claims~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~to 3~~, wherein:

$$\frac{F_1}{F} < 4 \quad .$$

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound objective lens ~~according to any preceding~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first element comprises a first lens surface arranged along a first optical axis and a second lens surface arranged along a second optical axis which is substantially orthogonal to the first optical axis, and wherein the first and second optical axes coincide at a point along the mirror surface.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound objective lens ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 5, wherein:

$$d_1 > sag_1 + D_1$$

where d_1 is the distance between the vertex of the first lens surface and the point at which the two optical axes coincide, and sag_1 is the sag of the first lens surface at the entrance pupil D_1.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The compound objective lens ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 5 ~~or 6~~, wherein:

$$d_2 > D_1 + sag_2 - \frac{NA_1}{\sqrt{n_1^2 - NA_1^2}}\left[d_1 - D_2 - sag_1\right]$$

where d_2 is the distance between the vertex of the second lens surface and the point at which the two optical axes coincide, sag1 is the sag of the first lens surface at the entrance pupil D_1, NA_1 is the numerical aperture of the beam in the first element, n_1 is the refractive index of the first element, D_2 is a radius on the second surface corresponding to the exit point on the second surface of a collimated ray incident upon the first surface at the entrance pupil D_1, and sag_2 is the corresponding sag of the second surface at radius D_2.

8. (Currently Amended) An optical scanning device comprising:

an the compound objective lens according to any of as claimed in claims 1 to 7 claim 1, the scanning device comprising ; and

a radiation source for generating a radiation beam which is passed, said radiation beam passing through the compound objective lens to scan an optical record carrier.

9. (Currently Amended) An the optical scanning device according to claim 8 and including a comprising:

the compound objective lens ~~according to any of claims~~as claimed in claim 5~~ to 7~~; and

a radiation source for generating a radiation beam, said radiation beam passing through the compound objective lens to scan an optical record carrier,

-wherein:

$$d_3 < d_4$$

where d_3 is the shortest distance between the closest point of the first lens surface and the location of the record carrier, measured parallel to the first optical axis, and d_4 is the furthest distance between the second lens surface and the location of the record carrier, measured parallel to the second optical axis.